

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RETIREMENT OF CHARLES R. JACKSON, PRESIDENT OF THE NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

**HON. BOB STUMP**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 1998*

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding American, a true patriot, and veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States. On March 30, 1998, Retired Navy Force Master Chief Petty Officer Charles R. Jackson will retire again, this time from his position as President of the Non Commissioned Officers Association. On that date, Chuck Jackson will bring to a close more than 45 years of public service that included over 25 years in the United States Navy and nearly 19 years of service to the military and veterans community with the Non Commissioned Officers Association. My fellow colleagues, for his entire adult life, Chuck Jackson has dedicated his efforts to our Nation and to those that are serving or have served in the Armed Forces.

A retired U.S. Navy Master Chief Petty Officer, Chuck Jackson's military service was indeed distinguished and varied. His Navy career entailed worldwide assignments on numerous ships and aviation units, including Vietnam service aboard the USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42). Chuck's Navy career culminated with his assignment as Force Master Chief of the U.S. Navy Recruiting Command.

Chuck joined the staff of the Non Commissioned Officers Association following his Navy service and he has held every level of leadership responsibility within that organization. Chuck was the Association's first fully accredited National Veterans Service Officer, and he established NCOA's veterans service program. As the Association's Vice-President for Government Affairs, he directed the legislative, regulatory and liaison programs of the Association at the federal level. Since February 1993, Chuck has led the worldwide activities of the Non Commissioned Officers Association as its President and Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Speaker, I share the view held by many of my distinguished colleagues in this chamber. The Non Commissioned Officers Association is an outstanding military and veterans service organization that, for nearly two decades, has benefited from the leadership and many talents of Chuck Jackson. Perhaps more importantly though, military members and veterans of all eras, indeed all Americans, have benefited from the sterling efforts that Chuck Jackson has so unselfishly given to the Nation.

As you embark on a new course in life Chuck, may your days ahead be filled with happiness, prosperity and health. It seems most fitting to again extend to Chuck and his lovely wife, Sylvia, and the traditional Navy farewell—"Fair Winds and Following Seas."

And, to paraphrase the current U.S. Navy recruiting slogan—"Let the Adventure Continue." Thanks for your service, Chuck, salutes and best wishes.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1998

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 17, 1998*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of HR 2864—the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Compliance Assistance Authorization Act of 1997.

This bill has received a wide range of support because it is a good bill. Supporters include the AFL-CIO, the chamber of commerce, the coalition on occupational safety and health, the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), as well as the Clinton administration.

The safety of our workers is an issue in which this Congress can not afford to play partisan politics. That is why I am encouraged that this bill has received strong bipartisan support.

The mission of OSHA is to save lives, prevent injuries and protect the health of the American worker. Federal and state workers across this country are working together in partnerships with more than 100 million working men and women.

Everyone who works in this country comes under the jurisdiction of OSHA, with a few exceptions (such as miners, transportation workers, many public employees, and the self employed).

According to OSHA, its state partners, along with OSHA, has approximately 2,100 inspectors, plus complaint discrimination investigators, engineers, physicians, educators, standards writers, and other technical and support personnel spread over more than 200 offices throughout the country. This staff is charged with establishing protective standards, enforcing those standards and reaching out to employers and employees through technical assistance and consultation programs.

This bill supports our nation's small businesses. It supports small businesses that seek to improve the safety of their workers. This bill codifies OSHA's consultation program for small business. Codifying an OSHA consultation program was one of the recommendations of the 1995 White House Conference on Small Business.

Through OSHA's consultation program, funds are available to states to provide on-site consultations in safety. Additionally, other education and training in occupational safety and health programs are available for smaller employers in higher hazardous industries.

Consultation programs are a big key to providing adequate and effective safety and

health advice to businesses. Expanding support for these programs has been one of the goals for OSHA in its reinvention effort. According to OSHA, employers who want help in setting up safety and health programs correcting hazards at no cost, penalty free. However, the employer must agree to correct any serious hazard.

Additionally, smaller employers with more serious hazardous operations may receive priority for the service, which is largely funded by OSHA and delivered by professional safety and health consultants who work for state government agencies and universities.

In Texas, the consultation program has proven most effective. According to OSHA, KLN Steel Products in San Antonio, Texas, which manufactures fabricated structural steel items, has been an active participant in OSHA's Consultation Program for 3 years. Because of the consultation program, the company estimates that it has saved more than \$50,000 in workers' compensation insurance premiums. Additionally, the lost work days has dropped dramatically.

The demands for consultation services are high and reflect the genuine interest of businesses to provide a safe and healthy workplace for their employees. This bill helps both the employer and the employee.

There is no doubt that this bill will help OSHA in fulfilling its mission to save lives, prevent injuries and protect the health of America's workers.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ERNESTINE COLEY FRANCIES

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 1998*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Ms. Ernestine Coley Francies of Passaic, New Jersey.

Ernestine is a graduate of Passaic High School. She attended Fairleigh Dickinson University where she received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. Ernestine was the Basic Skills Parent Liaison for 16 years and has been the District Parent/Teacher Coordinator for the Passaic School District for the past seven years. Her primary responsibilities include the organization and implementation of educational training programs for parents, students, teachers, and the community. In addition, Ernestine presents workshops to audiences with interest in local education throughout the State of New Jersey, and nationwide.

Through the Basic Skills Department, Ernestine has developed the BSI/Bilingual Parent Resource Center; the Parents Assistance in Reading Program; the MegaSkills Program; the Family Math Program; the Family Science Program; the Systematic Training and Effective Parenting Program (STEP); and the parental involvement activities of the BSI Council. Since 1993, Ernestine has served as the

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